



# NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS

Canada is our stage. Le Canada en scène.

## Media Advisory

### NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE AND COALITION FOR MUSIC EDUCATION HOSTS MAY 5 MUSIC MONDAY CONCERT AND WEBCAST FEATURING 450-VOICE CHOIR

**April 30, 2014 – OTTAWA (Canada)** – The National Arts Centre in partnership with the Coalition for Music Education in Canada will celebrate Music Monday with a live showcase concert and webcast linking special events in 10 cities across Canada. Approximately 450 local students in the NAC Foyer will join hundreds of thousands of children singing across the country in celebration of music education as part of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Music Monday at noon on May 5, 2014.

Hosted by CBC Ottawa anchor **Lucy van Oldenbarneveld** and young trumpet student **Malcolm Horava**, the free public event will also feature award-winning Franco-Ontarian artist **YAO**, flamenco guitarist **Servantes**, a string quintet of players from the **NAC Orchestra**, and the **Stellae Boreales** violin ensemble. **MP and singer-songwriter Andrew Cash** will be on hand to lend an official stamp on the celebrations.

Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson will proclaim May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 to be Music Monday in Ottawa. This marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year in a row that National Arts Centre will join the Coalition for Music Education along with hundreds of thousands of community members in the National Capital Region and across the country in a nation-wide sing-along which highlights the importance of learning music for young people in Canada.

At approximately 12:45 p.m., Canadian astronaut **Chris Hadfield** will join the webcast along with thousands across the nation in singing the official Music Monday theme song entitled ***I.S.S. – Is Somebody Singing/Quelqu'un Chante***. Commissioned by the Coalition for Music Education and CBC Music, the song was written by Hadfield, former Canadian Commander of the International Space Station, and Ed Robertson of Barenaked Ladies. *I.S.S.*, also the acronym for **International Space Station**, premiered on CBC Music on February 8, 2013 and was the first space-earth song premiere in history, with Hadfield performing in space and Robertson and the Barenaked Ladies on Earth.

The NAC's Music Monday massed choir includes children from local elementary schools and youth choirs to perform alongside the **Cantiamo Girls Choir**, the **Cantiamo Training Choir** and the **Ottawa Children's Choir** under the direction of **Jackie Hawley**. Participating choirs include: Adrienne Clarkson Elementary School; Avalon Public School; Blossom Park Public School Glee Club; Bridlewood Community Elementary School; Broadview Avenue Public School; Goulbourn Jubilee Juniors; Henry Larsen Public School; Land O'Lakes Public School (from Mountain Grove, ON); Loughborough Public School (from Sydenham, ON); and March Academy. For more information about the NAC's Music Monday event, please visit [nac-cna.ca](http://nac-cna.ca).

Music Monday is an annual event organized by the **Coalition for Music Education in Canada**, a national advocacy organization that for 20 years has represented educators, parents, music lovers, industry – and most of all students – to promote and protect quality music programs in schools. Music Monday is the world's largest single event dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of music education and has inspired similar initiatives in the U.S., Australia, the U.K. and Hungary. For more information, please visit [musicmonday.ca](http://musicmonday.ca).

The NAC's participation in Music Monday is made possible by support from the **Friends of the NAC Orchestra**. The NAC is proud to partner with the Coalition for Music Education in Canada for this event. The videoconference connection to the National Arts Centre is made possible by the NAC's distance learning studio, Hexagon.

## ABOUT THE NAC

The National Arts Centre collaborates with artists and arts organizations across Canada to help create a national stage for the performing arts, and acts as a catalyst for performance, creation and learning across the country. A home for Canada's most creative artists, the NAC strives to be artistically adventurous in each of its programming streams – the NAC Orchestra, English Theatre, French Theatre and Dance, as well as the Scene festivals and NAC Presents, which showcase established and emerging Canadian artists. The organization is at the forefront of youth and educational activities, offering artist training, programs for children and youth, and resources for teachers in communities across Canada. The NAC is also a pioneer in new media, using technology to teach students and young artists around the globe, by creating top-rated podcasts, and providing a wide range of NAC Orchestra concerts on demand. The NAC is the only bilingual, multidisciplinary performing arts centre in Canada, and one of the largest in the world.

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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